

AUGUST TOUR

Chicago and its surrounding areas was the site of this summer's tour, held August 19-22, under the joint chairmanship of Marian Card Donnelly and Barbara Wriston. The four days included a carefully balanced series of bus and walking tours, visits to buildings, and receptions that made for one of the Society's most enjoyable summer events. The meetings commenced with a tour of the Sun Times Building on Thursday afternoon, followed by a dinner and evening as guests of the Art Institute of Chicago. After a welcome from John Mason, Director of Fine Arts, President H. Allen Brooks spoke on "The Changing Interpretations of the 'Chicago School'." Friday was devoted to an all-day bus tour of old and new buildings on the North Shore. In the evening there was a boat tour of Chicago, followed by a reception given by Walter Sobel, President of the Chicago Chapter, AIA, at his penthouse terrace overlooking the Chicago River. Saturday was given over to a bus tour of the western suburbs, including a box lunch at the



August Tour Co-Chairmen:
 Marian Card Donnelly and Barbara Wriston
 Photo: J. C. Massey



President H. Allen Brooks addressing August
 Tour participants
 Photo: Edward Teitelman

Morton Arboretum home of Mrs. Suzette Morton Zurcher. On Sunday, the Robie House, the University of Chicago, and the new campus of the University of Illinois were toured. After lunch at Marina City, a walking tour to the Loop area was arranged. A fine illustrated guidebook covering several architectural tours of Chicago was written by J. Carson Webster and published by SAH.

SAH NOTICES

The following notice has been received from Wittenborn and Company, New York booksellers:

"We regret very much that we are no longer able to extend courtesy discounts due to the spiralling costs of our overhead. For lack of time we also unfortunately have had to curtail our literary information service, but we will, of course, continue to welcome your inquiries and to supply quotations whenever possible."

Note: Don't forget: SAH Annual Meeting, New York City, January 27-29, 1966.

CHAPTER NOTICES

Philadelphia

The first program of the Chapter's second season will be held on Sunday, October 10, at the Bucks County Historical Society in Doylestown. Two of Dr. Mercer's remarkable pioneering concrete buildings, including his own home, "Fonthill," will be open for visits, as well as other early Doylestown homes, prior to the main session. The program will be devoted to 19th-century Philadelphia architecture, with George B. Tatum, University of Pennsylvania, as moderator. Following the papers will be cocktails and a buffet supper in the Mercer Museum. Notices are being mailed to Chapter members. On August 28, the Chapter was host to 42 members of the Thornton Society of Washington for an all-day tour of historic buildings in Germantown and Fairmount Park.



SAH August Tour at Wright's Unity Temple, Oak Park.
Left to right: Charles E. Croom, J. William Rudd,
Mr. & Mrs. Edward Teitelman, Harley J. McKee,
Mrs. Peter S. Grinnell, Barbara Wriston, and
John Dickey
Photo: J. C. Massey

ORGANIZATIONS

This past summer several projects to record historic buildings in the Western United States were carried on by the National Park Services' Historic American Buildings Survey. Projects were set up in Bozeman, Montana, at the Montana State College under the direction of John N. DeHaas; at Manhattan, Kansas, under the supervision of Morris Beckman, at Kansas State College; and in San Francisco under the direction of Melvin Rotsch. For information, address: Charles St. G. Pope, National Park Service, 250 Golden Gate Avenue, San Francisco, Calif.

The National Trust for Historic Preservation will hold its annual meeting and preservation conference in Raleigh, N. C., October 7-10, to be followed by a study tour to Moravian Centers abroad on October 11-27, cosponsored by the Trust and Old Salem Inc., Winston Salem, N. C. December 3-4 are the dates for a New Jersey preservation conference to be arranged in cooperation with the New Jersey Historical Society at Newark.

NEWS OF MEMBERS

New Positions noted:

John Crosby Freeman - Yorker Yankee Village Museum, and Preservation Projects, Watkins Glen, N. Y.
Wolfgang Lotz - Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, N. J., for fall term 1965.
William L. MacDonald - Smith College.
Charles W. Moore - Chairman, Department of Architecture, Yale University.
Herman Pundt - University of Illinois, Chicago.
J. William Rudd - University of Cincinnati.
Joseph Watterson - Consultant on Architecture and Planning, National Park Service.

Honors, Awards, Boards

J. Roy Carroll, Jr. - Honorary Fellowship, Royal Architectural Institute of Canada
Nancy Holmes - President, Mobile Historic Development Commission of the City of Mobile.
L. Bancel La Farge, Russell Lynes, Loring McMillen, Geoffrey Platt, Frederick J. Woodbridge - Commissioners of the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission.
Geoffrey Platt and James G. Van Derpool - Award of the New York Municipal Art Society for their work in setting up the New York Landmarks Preservation Commission.
Whitney North Seymour, Jr. - President, Municipal Art Society of New York.
Mrs. Harry Van Liew - Suffolk County (Long Island) Landmarks Preservation Committee.
John Maass has designed the new U. S. commemorative stamp for Robert Fulton, his fourth U. S. stamp.

PUBLICATIONS

Recently noted publications:

The Work of Louis I. Kahn, La Jolla Museum of Art, 1965, 40 pp. Available from the Museum, P. O. Box 1311, La Jolla, Calif. \$1.50 plus postage.
Marvin D. Schwartz, The Jan Martense Scheneck House, The Brooklyn Museum, 1964, 40 pp. Worldwide Art Catalogue Center, 250 W. 57th St., New York, N. Y. \$2.00.

- G. M. Pilo, Disegni Di Giacomo Quarenghi E Dei Gaidon, Museo Civico, Bassano del Grappa, Italy, 1964, 36 pp. Exhibition of Architectural drawings by Quarenghi and Gaidon, noted Bassanese architects. World-wide Art Catalogue Center, 250 W. 57th St., New York. \$2.25.
- Proportion, A Measure of Order, Carpenter Center, Harvard University, 1965, 111 pp. Catalogue and exhibition arranged by Eduard F. Sekler. Available from the Center, Cambridge 38, Mass. for \$1.
- Landmarks of the National Capitol, National Capitol Planning Commission, 1964, 45 pp. Preliminary list of the architectural and historic landmarks of Washington. Available from the Commission, 1701 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W., Washington, D. C. 20576. No charge.
- River, Port, and Capitol, 32-page catalogue of a 1965 exhibition of Washington, D. C. historic buildings, sponsored by the National Park Service, The Commission of Fine Arts, the National Capitol Planning Commission, and the Eastern National Park and Monument Association. Available from Mrs. Constance Foley, National Park Service, Information Division, Washington, D. C. \$1.00.
- Harley J. McKee, Historic American Buildings Survey. Records of Buildings in Charleston and the South Carolina Low Country, National Park Service, 1965, 26 pp. Detailed listings of the 202 buildings in the area included in HABS. Available from HABS, National Park Service, EODC, 143 S. Third St., Phila., Pa. 19106. No charge.
- In The French in the Mississippi Valley, Urbana, 1965, are two important articles: Charles E. Peterson, "The Houses of French St. Louis" (pp. 17-40) and Samuel Wilson, Jr., "Colonial Fortifications and Military Architecture in the Mississippi Valley" (pp. 103-22)
- James D. Van Trump, Railroad Stations of Pennsylvania, Railroad and Locomotive Historical Society, 1964, 48 pp. Available from the Society, 1150 Porter Building, Pittsburgh 19, Pa.

EXHIBITIONS

"Historic Buildings in Detroit," arranged by the Detroit Historical Museum, Harry Veeder, Curator, on view until October 10. A free catalogue is available from the Detroit Historical Society, 5401 Woodward Avenue, Detroit, Michigan.

PRESERVATION NOTES

Certified:

The Massachusetts Historical Commission has certified its first group of historic buildings in the State as "Massachusetts Landmarks." This official designation takes on particular significance in that the buildings so named are exempt from the laws of eminent domain, thus protecting them from "progress" in the form of highway construction or redevelopment. This is a key provision for historic preservation that, along with tax concessions for restoration, is sorely needed, but rarely legislated. The first six certified buildings are: Trinity Church, Boston; Old South Meeting House, Boston; First Harrison-Gray-Otis House, Boston; Scotch-Boardman House, Saugus; Cooper - Frost - Austin House, Cambridge; and Tristram Coffin House, Newbury.

Saved:

Detlef Lienau's Victorian masterpiece, the Matthew - Lockwood Mansion, "Elm Park," Norwalk, Conn. (per letter from SAH member Robert Koch).

Restored:

Louis Sullivan's Auditorium in Chicago, now under restoration, is to be finished in October, and will be first used for a memorial service for the late Adlai Stevenson.

Threatened:

Many of the great mid-nineteenth century cast-iron front commercial buildings in Lower Manhattan, to be demolished to make way for the crosstown expressway, generally on the line of Broome Street.



At the ICOMOS conference in Poland:
Robert R. Garvey, Jr., Richard H.
Howland, Carl Feiss.

Photo: H. Romanowski

ICOMOS IS BORN IN POLAND - JUNE, 1965

Richard H. Howland, Smithsonian Institution

On May 26, 1965, a Provisional United States National Committee for the International Council of Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) was created in Washington, DC, at a meeting held in Decatur House. Those attending and those represented by proxy appointed four members to serve as the official United States delegation to the Constitutional Assembly (in Warsaw, June 20-22) and the First Congress of ICOMOS (in Cracow, June 24-25). The four were all SAH members: Carl Feiss, Robert R. Garvey, Jr., Charles E. Peterson, and the writer. Their mission was to work with representatives of other nations to bring into being this new UNESCO-sponsored organization, ICOMOS, to aid historic preservation, architectural history and research, and serve as an international information center: a kind of international preservation trust.

At the first meeting of the Constitutional Assembly, on June 21, the first order of business was the adoption of Rules for this Constitutional Assembly. This was quickly done by acclamation, and the next item on the agenda was the election of temporary officers, to preside over the two days' meetings and until the permanent officers could be elected at the First General Assembly, June 24th. The officers included Stanislaw Lorentz of Poland, temporary president, and three temporary vice-presidents: Charles E. Peterson, the head of our U. S. delegation; Ruth Rivera de Coronel, head of the Mexican delegation; and Aleks Khauturin, head of the USSR delegation.

On Tuesday, the US delegation gave a reception at the Embassy of the United States for the temporary officers, future permanent officers, and members of the Polish National Committee. Ambassador Cabot and his wife were most helpful in arranging this reception. The guests, especially the Poles, seemed appreciative of American hospitality, and the Embassy staff seemed pleased that several high ranking Poles who had never before been to the American Embassy attended.

The First General Assembly met in Cracow on June 24 and 25. The temporary president, Mr. Lorentz, was absent on the first day because he had to attend the opening of Parliament in Warsaw as a newly-elected Deputy. In his place two of the vice-presidents presided: our own Charles Peterson presided first, introducing various civic and cultural leaders in Cracow who made welcoming addresses. Then the Assembly was presided over by the Russian temporary vice-president, Mr. Khauturin; the General Assembly voted to adopt the Statutes approved two days previously by the Constitutional Assembly, and then proceeded to the election of permanent officers: President: Piero Gazzola, Italy; Vice-Presidents: Robert R. Garvey, Jr., U.S.A., Vladimir Ivanov, USSR, Martin Almagro, Spain; Secretary General: Raymond Lemaire, Belgium; Treasurer: Maurice Berry, France; Chairman of the Council of ICOMOS: Stanislaw Lorentz, Poland.

The next principal order of business was the adoption of a program for ICOMOS. The program's five headings may be summarized:

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| 1. Concern for the Distribution of Information | 4. Legislation and Administration |
| 2. Promoting of Conservation and Restoration | 5. Interpretation of Sites and Monuments |
| 3. Promoting the Professional Training of Personnel | |

Three countries had sent invitations to have the permanent seat of ICOMOS in their territories: Spain, Italy, and France. A motion was passed to accept the French invitation, and thus ICOMOS is now to be located in Paris, in adequate quarters in the Palais de Chaillot. No final decisions were made as to the time and place of the Second General Assembly of ICOMOS, but the prevalent feeling was that it might be Mexico, in 1968.

Before arriving in Warsaw, it would not have seemed likely that a feeling of great warmth and amiability, even a faint nostalgia, would rise to the surface after leaving Poland and ten days there. Many local aspects we had not expected, including the dozens of active and well-stocked bookstores in the capital and the enormous freedom and activity of the Roman Catholic Church everywhere: priests and nuns were omnipresent, every old and many new churches had well-attended services on weekdays and Holydays (we were there for the feasts of Corpus Christi and Sts. Peter and Paul), and worshippers obviously felt free.

The restoration of the old buildings in Warsaw is an extraordinary achievement. Eighty-five percent of the city had been ruthlessly mined and totally destroyed by the Germans after they evacuated it. The magnificent 18th century private palaces and the entire Old Town section have been meticulously restored, including in many cases the hardware, parquet floors, glazing, tiles, etc. The palaces now serve as ministries, libraries, educational centers, and other government offices. The Old Town, about the size of Beacon Hill in Boston, is centered around a large square. The buildings are largely apartments, but with shops, restaurants, and taverns at ground level. Seven of the most striking houses have been united to serve handsomely as the Municipal Museum of Warsaw. The reconstruction is accurate and made possible by prewar measured drawings. Since 1928 architectural students of the Warsaw Polytechnic Institute have been working on detailed drawings of all the fine old buildings of Warsaw! Colors for the exteriors of many restored buildings were verified by the paintings of Canaletto. In the late 18th century he painted an extensive series of city-scapes of Warsaw; these were formerly in the Royal Palace, but now grace the National Museum.

The epilogue of the ICOMOS story in Poland ends with the formation of the permanent U.S. National Committee. The provisional committee dissolved itself on July 28th, after electing the new permanent committee, limited to fifteen members (the same for all countries). The new committee then elected one of its members, President, Professor Joseph Brew of Harvard University, who now heads ICOMOS for the United States. In a short time he will inform all interested persons of the way in which they may become associate members of ICOMOS; a wide membership is desired.

Editor: JAMES C. MASSEY, 206 Gulph Creek Road, Radnor, Pa.

Send the names of prospective members to Mrs. Rosann S. Berry, SAH, Box 94, Media, Pa., and a descriptive brochure (with application blank), indicating you have suggested them for membership, will be sent to each.

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